

Minutes of the Public Works Committee - February 2, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Manke who led the committee with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Chair Richard Manke, County Board Supervisors James Behrend, Peter Gundrum, James Jeskewitz, Karl Nilson, Rodell Singert (arrived at 8:37 a.m.), and David Swan

Staff Present: County Board Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Legis.Associate Sandra Meisenheimer

Also Present: Public Works Engineering Services Mgr. Gary Evans, Senior Civil Engineer Karen Braun, Business Mgr. Betsy Crosswaite, Highway Operations Mgr. Steve Geiss

Read Correspondence / Meeting Approvals

1. Letter from Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) advising of federal funding availability. The application deadline is April 14, 2006.
2. Notice of Public Information Meeting on 1/31/06 at the Ashippun Town Hall in Oconomowoc concerning the reconstruction of CTH "P" from the South County Line to CTH "O" in the Town of Ashippun.
3. Information on the quarterly meeting of the Waukesha County Traffic Safety Commission on 2/8/06. **Motion:** Nilson moved, second by Swan, to approve attendance to the Traffic Safety Commission meeting on 2/8/06 at 2:00 p.m. at the City of Waukesha Police Department. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**
4. Manke asked have we heard anything on what's happening with the west Waukesha highway corridor? At the last meeting, Bolte said he would send a letter to the County Executive. Manke said he never received a copy of the letter. Manke said he talked to Chairman Dwyer about getting the legislative delegation to appear at an Executive Committee meeting concerning this issue.
5. Esler said based on yesterday's newspaper article about UW-Waukesha, he called Carla Rutley, Executive Director of the Waukesha County Action Network, who brought copies of the Waukesha County Action Network Report for all supervisors. She met with Esler yesterday to discuss the report and their involvement in the UW-W programmatic transformation.

Future Agenda Items

1. Esler distributed draft copies of a procedure and policy on courthouse security. This item will be on the Finance Committee agenda next Wednesday 2/8/06.
2. Esler asked Manke if there was anything happening with the Jungbluth Road issue. Manke said he hasn't heard anything. Behrend said he talked to Wally Thiel (Administrator, Village of Hartland) a couple of months ago, and he was disappointed that nothing has been done.
3. Esler said in terms of planning the balance of the committee's meetings for this term of office, some time should be reserved for transit issues, the SEWRPC 2030 Plan, the State's cost sharing policy (Bolte and SEWRPC are pursuing this), and the State DOT's annual appearance to discuss their capital projects plan for this calendar year.

Approve Minutes of December 20, 2005 (Reconsider) and January 12, 2006

Motion: Swan moved, second by Jeskewitz, to reconsider the minutes of 12/20/05. Esler explained the discrepancy under the "Correspondence" heading, #2. To further clarify "requesting the State of Wisconsin to accept" was added. **Motion carried 7 – 0.** **Motion:** Singert moved, second by Behrend, to approve the minutes of 12/20/05 as corrected. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

Motion: Swan moved, second by Behrend, to approve the minutes of 1/12/06. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

Report from Executive Committee Member for Meeting of January 16, 2006

Manke reviewed items that were discussed and/or considered at the January 16th meeting.

Consider Proposed Ordinance: 160-O-107 Sale of Excess Right of Way, CTH I, Project ID 02-2790(16), City of New Berlin

Evans and Braun were in attendance. Braun distributed colored maps for the committee's review. It was pointed out that the yellow-copied map did not show the highlighted areas because they were highlighted in yellow. New maps will be provided to the whole County Board with the next County Board agenda of February 28. **Motion:** Swan moved, second by Behrend, to approve Ordinance 160-O-107.

Braun said this is a clean up at the end of the project which was worked out with the owner. The county will sell back what wasn't needed for the road, which was outside of the ultimate width. The land will be sold for \$1,650, based on the appraised fair market value. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

Verbal Report by Chief of Staff Esler Regarding the Highway Conference on January 23-25

Esler highlighted issues at the conference he attended. He stated one item was about a supplemental appropriation which might come up under the ordinance for State highway maintenance. The budget increased from \$104 million to \$120 million so WisDOT is happy about this. One of the issues that was discussed in the first session and looks like it is coming closer to actuality is the increase of weight limits for trucks to go from 80,000 lbs. to 98,000 lbs. Everyone at the meeting hotly opposed the increase in the weight limits, and the only hope for stopping this would be at the Joint Conference Committee. (Continued later in the meeting).

Consider Proposed Ordinance: 160-O-111 Increase Expenditures to the Transportation Fund 2005 Budget by Increasing Revenues and Transferring Contingency Funds

Crosswaite and Geiss were present. **Motion:** Behrend moved, second by Singert, to approve Ordinance 160-O-111. Crosswaite said this ordinance is all related to the winter snow season. She said their budget is based on an average season of snow; however, in 2005 there was a lot of snow in January, February and March as well as in November and December which actually could be considered as two winter seasons. The total appropriation is for \$435,000. Crosswaite said this would be covered by the Public Works budget (\$135,000), State reimbursements of \$210,000 and \$90,000 from contingency.

Swan referred to line 44 of the ordinance, and asked if \$30,000 should be \$25,000. Crosswaite said yes it should. A corrected white copy will be distributed to the County Board with the next County Board agenda of February 28. **Motion carried 7 – 0.**

Verbal Report by Chief of Staff Esler Regarding the Highway Conference on January 23-25

Esler continued with his report on the conference and related conversations he had with Rob Clark, Program Mgr. for WisDOT, and Glenn Lampark, Public Works Director of Racine County, concerning an issue about the Transportation Improvement Program at the planning meeting he attended on January 19. This is a meeting that SEWRPC schedules to go over the allocation of federal money to highway projects in southeast Wisconsin. Esler also discussed conversations that revolved around "Smart Growth" that the northern counties in the state do not favor.

Report on Meeting Held to Discuss the Courts Tower

Esler said the meeting was scheduled by County Executive Vrakas for an update on the progress of this project. In addition to himself, Chairman Dwyer and Legislative Policy Advisor Mader, those in attendance were County Executive Vrakas, Chief of Staff Bussler, Sheriff Trawicki, Deputy Inspector Marks, Captain Schnabl, Clerk of Courts Evenson, Business Mgr. Snow, County Board Supervisors Haukohl and Mitchell, Public Works Director Bolte, Architectural Services Mgr. Cerreta, Judge Foster, Judge Bohren, District Court Administrator Neimon, DOA Director Cummings and Budget Specialist Witkowski. Vrakas said he wanted more information but has come to the conclusion that something needs to be built. Esler stated that the project is on hold in regard to any replacement of intake court or physical activity for the courts tower this calendar year. One of the concerns, which a lot of people agreed with, was to wait to see the outcome of the Courthouse/Administration Building Security Plan. Issues concerning the security issue were then discussed in detail by Evenson, Foster and Bohren. The Sheriff discussed some of the estimates regarding operating cost differences. Handouts were distributed of the five options of different cost estimates for a two floor/three floor/four floor building, finished/unfinished, etc., ranging from \$14 million to \$25 million. Esler said the data in this report hasn't changed since July of 2005 when Dan Finley was County Executive. Esler will get copies of the handout to the committee. Esler said this group has been asked to reassemble in the future for more updates.

Motion to adjourn: Singert moved, second by Behrend, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m.
Motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodell L. Singert
Secretary

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